

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (original) A method of abandoning a well, said well
2 comprising at least two concentric conduits defining a main bore
3 and at least one annular chamber there between, comprising the
4 steps of:

5 providing a perforation in one or more of the conduits,
6 pumping out the fluid from the annular chamber and/or
7 main bore to create a fluid-free void,

8 inserting sealing material in the annular chamber and/or
9 main bore to seal it/them.

10 2. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein
11 sealing material is inserted into the bore of the innermost conduit
12 to seal it.

1 3. (currently amended) A method according to either
2 claim 1 [[or 2]] wherein a tube is introduced and the fluid pumped
3 to the surface through the tube.

1 4. (currently amended) A method according to either
2 claim 1 [[or 2]] wherein the fluid is pumped downwards into the
3 well.

1 5. (currently amended) A method according to any
2 previous claim 1 wherein the sealing material is inserted in the
3 annular chamber before the fluid from the annular chamber is pumped
4 out.

1 6. (currently amended) A method according to any
2 previous claim 1 wherein perforations are formed in at least one
3 conduit and the annular chamber or chambers are sealed at one level
4 in the well, and then further perforations are formed in a greater
5 number of conduits at a second higher level in the well.

1 7. (original) A method according to claim 6 wherein
2 after forming the further perforations in the greater number of
3 conduits at the second higher level, the annular chambers between
4 these conduits are sealed.

1 8. (original) An apparatus for abandoning a well having
2 at least two concentric conduits defining at least one annular
3 chamber there between, the apparatus including a pump and a
4 perforation forming device.

1 9. (original) An apparatus according to claim 8 wherein
2 there is also provided a valve unit capable of securing itself in
3 an innermost conduit and including a check valve to permit the one-
4 way flow of fluids.

1 10. (currently amended) An apparatus according to
2 ~~either of claims~~ claim 8 ~~[[or 9]]~~ wherein the pump and the valve
3 unit are separable.

1 11. (currently amended) An apparatus according to ~~any~~
2 ~~of claims~~ claim 8 ~~[[to 10]]~~ wherein there is provided a cable on
3 which the pump may be lowered into the well.

1 12. (currently amended) An apparatus according to ~~any~~
2 ~~of claims~~ claim 8 ~~[[to 11]]~~ wherein the perforation forming device
3 is incorporated into the pump.

1 13. (currently amended) An apparatus according to ~~any~~
2 ~~of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 8 wherein the perforation forming device is
3 incorporated into the valve unit.

1 14. (currently amended) An apparatus according to ~~any~~
2 ~~of claims 11 to 13~~ claim 8 wherein the cable includes a through
3 bore.

15. (canceled)